

Message Text

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10
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-02 EB-07 AGR-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /071 W
----- 037102

R 052303Z MAR 75
FM AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 335
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0192

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, EGEN, PP
SUBJ: PNG/CHINESE TRADE POSSIBILITIES

REF: PORT MORESBY 150

1. BEN SABUMEI, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, DFRT, TOLD ME AT LUNCH FEB. 27 THAT GPNG WILL SEND MISSION TO CANTON TRADE FAIR IN APRIL. MISSION WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. AND ELECTRICITY COMMISSION, AND WILL LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF PURCHASE FOR THEIR DEPARTMENTS.

2. SABUMEI SAID CHINESE HAD TAKEN ATTITUDE THAT NEXT STEPS IN EXPANSION OF PNG-CHINESE TRADE WERE UP TO PNG. CHINESE WERE WILLING TO EXPAND TRADE, BUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION RESTED WITH GPNG. CHINESE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE ANOTHER MISSION VISIT CHINA AT ANY TIME, HE SAID. CHINESE MIGHT SEND A TRADE EXHIBIT TO
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PNG A YEAR HENCE, BUT PLANNED NOTHING THIS YEAR.

3. SABUMEI SAID GPNG WOULD LIKE TO BUY RICE AND OIL FROM CHINA, AND ALSO SMALL MACHINES FOR VILLAGE USE SUCH AS HAND TRACTORS, SMALL RICE MILLS, AND SMALL SUGAR MILS. (REF PORT MORESBY 148) CHINESE WERE WILLING TO EXPAND PURCHASES IN PNG BUT LOOKED TO GPNG TO MAKE OFFERS.

4. GPNG IS CONSIDERING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE TRADING COMMISSION TO HANDLE TRADE WITH CHINA, SABUMEI SAID. GPNG SEES NO NEED FOR A TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND NO DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD ABOUT THIS POSSIBILITY.

5. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE TRADE, CHINESE ARE WILLING TO HAVE SHIPS CARRYING AUSTRALIAN WHEAT TO CHINA STOP PERHAPS ONCE A MONTH IN PNG.

6. COMMENT: SABUMI, LIKE KIKI, WAS TREMENDOUSLY IMPRESSED BY WHAT HE SAW IN CHINA. HE SAID THE CHINESE WERE EXCEEDINGLY HOSPITABLE AND WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO PLEASE THE PNG MISSION.
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